

G E O R G K A R G L B O X

Press release

David Maljkovic *After The Fair*

Georg Kargl BOX

Exhibition dates: March 18 – May 2, 2009

In his installations, videos and collages the Croatian artist David Maljkovic deals with the controversial history of his native country by exploring the modernist remnants of socialist Croatia as a part of Ex Yugoslavia and their echoes on the present, as well as their future possibilities. Reaching into the past, the artist turns to examples in which the ideas of universal modernist progress are interconnected with a specific understanding of socialism as a potentially radical, experimental, modernist concept.

Maljkovic's first solo exhibition in Vienna is based on the research material about the EXAT 51 group and it refers to the Yugoslavian Pavilion at Vienna Fair, 1949. The Pavilion was designed by Vjenceslav Richter, Ivan Picelj and Aleksandar Srnec, all of them later became members of EXAT 51, short for Experimental atelier. The group was based in Zagreb and proposed to abolish the borders between high art and applied art, which apart from art also covered design, set design and exhibition pavilions for fairgrounds. In then dominate socialist realism surroundings they were trying to obtain legitimacy for abstract art and experimental and creative approaches to the work.

„After the Fair“ puts in focus the Yugoslavian Pavilion at the International Vienna Fair and recalls absent images of the pavilion and the absence of an euphoric projection of a happier future which should be built after the recent historic trauma.

The exhibition in its architectonically determined space of the Georg Kargl BOX cannot reconstruct these 'events', however it can bring up questions as a kind of an inventory making. The form from the Pavilion floats above Zagreb flea market, long lost companies on the branches, the empty shop window are just some of them from the inventory list.

„After the Fair“ confronts us with the heritage that is forgotten or not seen as a value for the present moment.

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Opening hours

Tue-Fri 11 am – 7 pm

Thu 11 am – 8 pm

Sat 11 am – 3 pm